

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (New): A method for cleaning a mower deck having an upper surface, a lower surface, and an outer perimeter, the mower having at least one mower blade mounted for rotation about a blade axis below the lower surface of the mower deck for cutting grass, the mower blade having a radius of predetermined length on opposite sides of the blade axis; the method comprising:

taking a lawnmower tool comprising an elongated handle having first and second opposite ends and a longitudinal axis, a shaft extending longitudinally from the handle along the longitudinal axis thereof, and a scraping blade being attached to the shaft and having a sharpened edge facing away from the handle and shaft, the sharpened edge being perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle, the handle having a length greater than the radius of the mower blade;

positioning the sharpened edge of the scraping blade beneath and in contact with the lower surface of the mower deck with the first end of the handle being located beneath the lower surface of the mower deck and with the second end of the handle extending outside the perimeter of the mower deck;

scraping debris from the lower surface of the mower deck by moving the handle in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the handle so that the sharpened edge of the scraping blade scrapes along, and scrapes debris from, the lower surface of the mower deck;

maintaining and gripping a portion of the handle outside the perimeter of the mower deck during the entire scraping step.

Claim 20 (New): A method according to claim 19 wherein the blade comprises a flat plate lying in a plane that is at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the tool, the method further comprising pushing the handle to cause the sharpened edge of the blade to scrape debris from the under surface of the deck.

Claim 21(New): A method according to claim 20 wherein the blade lies in a plane that is approximately at a twenty degree angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the handle, and the method further comprises positioning the tool so that the sharpened edge of the blade is presented upwardly and in contact with the lower surface of the mower deck.

Claim 22 (New): A method according to claim 21 and further comprising maintaining the lower surface of the mower deck in a downwardly presented direction during the scraping step.

Claim 23 (New): A method according to claim 21 and further comprising inverting the mower deck so that the lower surface of the mower deck is presented in an upward direction during the scraping step.

Claim 24 (New): A method according to claim 19 wherein the blade comprises a first leg attached to the shaft and extending perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle, and a second leg attached to the first leg and extending perpendicular to both the longitudinal axis of the handle and the first leg, the sharpened edge being on the second leg, the method further comprising placing the second leg in contact with the lower surface of the mower deck and using the sharpened edge of the second leg to scrape debris from the lower surface of the mower deck.

Claim 25 (New): A method according to claim 24 wherein the second leg includes the first mentioned sharpened edge and a second oppositely facing sharpened edge and the method further comprises pushing the handle to cause the first sharpened edge to scrape debris from the lower end of the mower deck and pulling the handle to cause the second sharpened edge to scrape debris from the lower end of the mower deck.

Claim 26 (New): A method according to claim 24 wherein the sharpened edge is on both the first and second legs of the leg and the mower deck comprises a horizontal downwardly presented surface and a vertical perimetric surface, the method further comprising scraping the sharpened edge of the second leg on the downwardly presented surface of the mower deck and scraping the sharpened edge of the first leg on the vertical perimetric surface of the mower deck.